

Soil Held in Place with Maryland Cover Crop Program

The state's new cover crop program will help stem the loss of soil on **38,125** acres of cropland between the harvest of summer crops and the establishment of next season's crops. Under the program, qualifying crop farmers of wheat, rye, barley, or other small grains may receive grants to help with the cover crop planting. Some new features of the cover crop program this year include reduced paper work, permission to harvest cover crops in select situations, and an upper limit of 1,000 acres. Sign ups occurred during June and July. This assistance will cover roughly 26% of Frederick County's acreage in crops.